

REMARKS

The present application was filed on January 26, 2004 with claims 1-3. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 1 and 3 remain pending. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

In the outstanding Office Action dated December 13, 2006, the Examiner: (i) objected to claim 2; (ii) rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,844,530 to Tosaki (hereinafter "Tosaki"); and (iii) rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,339,411 to Miyazaki et al. (hereinafter "Miyazaki").

With regard to the objection to claim 2, Applicants have canceled claim 2. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 2 is respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tosaki, Applicants respectfully assert that Tosaki fails to teach or suggest each and every element respectively recited in claims 1 and 3.

Amended independent claim 1 recites a compact head mounted virtual image display unit that comprises a microdisplay and an optical system for directing an image signal for viewing by a user. The image signal is generated in accordance with the microdisplay. The unit further comprises an optical system mounting structure for supporting the optical system within the field of view of one eye of the user, a housing to substantially contain at least the optical system, and a slidable light shield integrated within the housing and having an open position and a closed position. The light shield is slidably positioned with respect to the optical system such that, in the open position, the image signal is viewed by the user with background light entering the optical system, and in the closed position, the image signal is viewed by the user with background light at least partially blocked from entering the optical system. Support for the amendments can be found on page 4, lines 7-17 of the Specification.

Tosaki discloses a head mounted display and head mounted display system, but fails to disclose a compact head mounted virtual display unit with an optical system in the field of view of one eye of the user, as recited in amended independent claim 1. Further Tosaki fails to disclose a slidable light shield integrated within the housing, as recited in amended independent claim 1. Dependent claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. Dependent claim 3 is patentable at least by

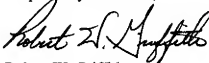
virtue of its dependency on independent claim 1, and also recites patentable subject matter in its own right. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is therefore respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Miyazaki, Applicants assert that Miyazaki fails to teach or suggest each and every element respectively recited in claims 1 and 3.

Miyazaki discloses a display device, but fails to disclose a compact head mounted virtual display unit with an optical system in the field of view of one eye of the user, as recited in amended independent claim 1. Further Miyazaki fails to disclose a slidable light shield integrated within the housing, as recited in amended independent claim 1. Dependent claim 3 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on independent claim 1, and also recites patentable subject matter in its own right. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicant believes that claims 1 and 3 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102(b) and §102(e) rejections.

Respectfully submitted,



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